

[To read the text of HR 1904 "Resolution Copper" click here.](#)

[To read news coverage of the legislation from The Hill, click here.](#)

It seems obvious to everyone but those running Congress at the moment that we should be doing everything in our power to get Americans back to work. Instead, this week the majority decided to take up a bill to give away valuable American resources to foreign companies.

The bill would take sacred land from Native American tribes and give it away to two foreign corporations – one of which is partly owned by the Chinese government – in an attempt to give away millions of tons of our scarce copper resources to foreign companies. Furthermore, American taxpayers would not receive a dime of royalties in this deal.

One of these companies even partners with an Iranian business that mines uranium. In other words, the measure rewarded a company that helps Iran mine the fuel it needs for its nuclear efforts. This comes on the heels of a proposal to allow state-owned Russian and South Korean companies to mine uranium around the Grand Canyon. It is unconscionable.

This attempted fire-sale of American resources is being conducted under the guise of job creation. The reality is that a bill giving away valuable land to companies that specialize in replacing miners with robots is no solution to our jobs crisis.

The bill wasn't written for the American worker – it was written for foreign mining giants. These firms hope that Congress will be charitable enough to give away millions of tons of copper to foreign companies that have no responsibility to create American jobs.

Thankfully, this giveaway is unlikely to pass the Senate or be signed into law by the President.

But the truth is that we could really be working on bills to benefit this country instead. Bills that would actually create jobs, not half measures that could maybe create jobs at some unnamed point in the future.

We should be voting to keep our firefighters, police officers and teachers on the job serving our communities. We should be investing in new roads, rails and schools, and creating thousands of jobs for construction workers here in Western New York and across our country.

More than ever, we need to take tangible action to create jobs, not sell our national interests to the highest foreign bidder. As your representative in Congress, I will continue pushing for policies to create jobs, strengthen the middle class, and help small businesses grow and hire.

Sincerely,

Louise M. Slaughter